



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Dale R. Shaver – Director of Parks and Land Use (262) 896-8310

**SMART GROWTH GRANT AWARDS
“Collaboration Pays Off”**

Waukesha, WIS. - County Executive Dan Finley announces that the County and its 24 partnering municipalities will receive Comprehensive Planning Grants totaling \$812,300 from the State of Wisconsin’s Department of Administration this year to update the County’s comprehensive development plan.

In addition to County government, these local agencies have been awarded:

- **Towns:** Brookfield, Delafield, Genesee, Lisbon, Merton, Mukwonago, Oconomowoc, Ottawa, Vernon and Waukesha.
- **Villages:** Butler, Chenequa, Dousman, Elm Grove, Hartland, Menomonee Falls, Nashotah, North Prairie and Oconomowoc Lake.
- **Cities:** Brookfield, Delafield, Oconomowoc, Pewaukee and Waukesha.

Finley said, “I am pleased that so many of our communities applied for and were awarded this grant. It will help pave the way for continued, orderly development that seeks to preserve and enhance the County’s unique and desirable qualities, which make it one of the best places in the state to live, work and play.”

In 1999, the Wisconsin legislature enacted a new comprehensive development planning law, frequently referred to as “Smart Growth”, to provide a framework for the development, adoption and implementation of public comprehensive development plans throughout Wisconsin.

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SMART GROWTH GRANT AWARDS *continued...*

To update the local plan and simultaneously satisfy the provisions of the law, the County worked with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to draft and submit cooperative planning proposals to each of its 37 municipalities. Memorandums of Understanding were signed with 26 communities, but the Town of Summit and the Village of Big Bend declined to pursue grant funding to offset costs.

“By securing these grants, it will enable each of the participating municipalities and the County to refine their vision for the physical development of our respective communities,” Keith Henderson, chairman of the Town of Brookfield said,

Paul Craig, mayor of the City of Delafield said, “One of the long-term goals of this effort is to enhance municipal discussions regarding land use and the required services. Since 26 municipalities and the County are already sitting at the same table, we appear to be well on our way to meeting this goal.”

“It is extremely important for local government bodies to embrace cooperative ventures that successfully fulfill their obligations to the public,” said Finley. “The success of this collaborative project is another example of how our municipalities are coming together to mutually benefit their citizens, which in this case will have a positive impact on 275,000 residents.”

For more information about the cooperative planning effort or the grant, please contact Dale R. Shaver, director of Waukesha County’s Department of Parks and Land Use at (262) 896-8300 or visit the department’s website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/landandparks.

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